

Chief, Intelligence Information Staff, ORR 4 February 1958  
THRU : Chief, Industrial Division, ORR  
Acting Chief, Electrical Equipment Branch, ORR  
25X1A2g  
Review and Consolidation of Requirement

1. These two referenced requirements are cancelled and the following is resubmitted in their place. It is requested that this be considered as a general gap requirement.

2. Requirement:

Area: China

Subject: East Germany Assistance to Chinese Electron Tube Plant.

Reference:

25X1A2g

Note: The questions in the "Requirements" section of this supplement may be downgraded to UNCLASSIFIED when removed from format and "Background".

Background

1. Reference (a) related that VEB Funkwerk Erfurt, East Germany, was to provide machinery and assistance to Communist China to build an electron tube plant. Information was requested about the plant, the machinery, the assistance, and production, but no pertinent reports were received in response. References (b) and (c) quote Communist news services which state that the Peking State Electron Tube Manufacturing Plant commenced operations on 15 October 1956. References (c) and (d) state that the machinery came from the USSR.

2. It has now been established that responsibility for this expansion was assigned to the Soviet electron tube industry.

3. Reference (e) states that the plant's maximum annual capacity for production of tubes in the 6 and 12 volt series alone is 3 million. Total annual production capacity for tubes of all types has been estimated to be in the neighborhood of 15 million. In addition to tubes, the plant will, according to references (f) and (g), manufacture glass materials, tungsten, molybdenum, and magnesium wire and other products.

4. Reference (h) states that the production of this plant will partially fill military needs.

5. Since it is known that the Peking Electron Tube Plant is the largest and most modern in Communist China, intelligence on its facilities, production capacity, etc., is important in support of estimates of future capabilities of the Chinese electronics industry. Information on the current status and future plans of the plant is also required to fill priority intelligence gaps of the EIC Subcommittee on Electronics and Telecommunications, and in support of ORR Project 10.1308.

Requirement

It is requested that attempts be made if feasible to obtain from Far East sources and all other possible sources the following information on the Peking State Electron Tube Plant:

- a. Details on the type and quantity of tube machinery installed.
- b. Estimated overall capital cost of this expansion.
- c. Current status of production including types and quantities of tubes, and quantities of each tube type.
- d. Current status of production including types and quantities of glass, wire and related products.
- e. Source of production raw and semi-fabricated materials.
- f. Planned production and employment for 1956 and future years.

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g. Description of research facilities associated with the plant and type of development programs underway or planned.

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